

Sermon Notes

Life Notes

Never Beyond His Reach #4: Seized by Grace Acts 9:1-9

Opener:

Who is someone from your younger years who turned out very differently than you expected?

Go Deeper: *(Exploring the Bible)*

1. What was Saul planning to do, and what does this reveal about the depth of his opposition to Jesus and His Church?
2. Jesus asks, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?" What does this teach us about how closely Jesus identifies with His people?
3. Why do you think Ananias is hesitant?

Live It: *(Applying to Our Lives)*

1. Is there something from your past that still feels bigger than Christ's mercy? What promise from this text speaks to that?
2. Who is someone you have a hard time imagining as "new in Christ," and how might Jesus be calling you to pray for them?
3. What is one simple way you can live this week as someone Jesus has claimed, forgiven, and sent?

Daily Bible Readings (May 3-9)

Sun:	Acts 9:1-9	Stopped by Grace
Mon:	Acts 9:10-19	Brother Saul
Tues:	1 Timothy 1:12-17	Mercy Overflowed
Wed:	2 Corinthians 5:16-21	Made New
Thurs:	Ephesians 4:29-32	Forgiven to Forgive
Fri:	Galatians 1:11-24	Grace Rewrites Stories
Sat:	Philippians 3:4-14	Pressing On in Christ

Upcoming Week

Sunday, May 3

8:30-11am Morning Fellowship, FH
 8am Worship & Communion, WC
 9:30am Worship, WC
 9:30am Children's Church, NR
 11am Contemporary Worship, WC
 11am Children's Church, NR

Monday, May 4

9-11:30am Food Pantry
 12:30-2:30pm GriefShare, C4
 4pm Confirmation Class, C1

Tuesday, May 5

OFFICE CLOSED - STAFF RETREAT

6:30pm "Seekers" Small Group, B7
 7pm AA Men's Meeting, C5

Wednesday, May 6

9-11:30am Food Pantry
 10am Men's Bible Study, LR
 12:30pm AI-Anon, C4

4pm Prayer & Praise Worship Service, CH

Thursday, May 7

10am National Day of Prayer, CH

11am AI-Anon Meeting, FS
 11:30am Stephen Ministers, C4

Friday, May 8

OFFICE CLOSED

Saturday, May 9

MOTHER'S DAY WEEKEND

8am Men's Bible Study, FS
 4pm Worship, WC



CH = Chapel
 FH = Fellowship Hall
 C5 = Fireside Room
 NR = Nursery
 WC = Worship Center
 C4 = Community Room

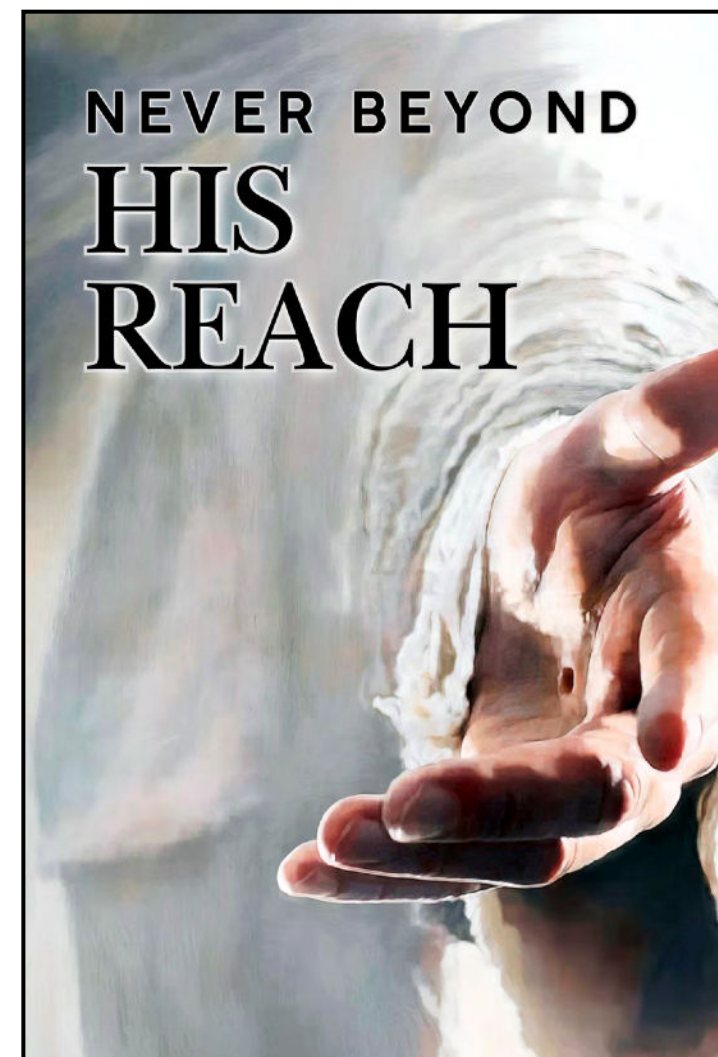
Victory Lutheran Church

5946 E. University Drive, Mesa, AZ 85205
 hello@victorylutheran.com
 480-830-5024 | VictoryLutheran.com



VictoryLutheran_Guest
 Password: Victory_46

NEVER BEYOND HIS REACH



MAY 2 & 3, 2026

Seized by Grace Acts 9:1-9



Todd Mathison, Lead Pastor
 Denton Bennet, Associate Pastor
 Dirk Duhlstine, Chaplain
 Kristin Holton Prouty, Director of Worship & Music



Connect with us!



GOD TIME: Glorify God Among the Nations, Seeking Him in All Generations

"Tell of His glory among the nations,
His wonderful deeds among all the peoples."
1 Chronicles 16:24 (NASB)

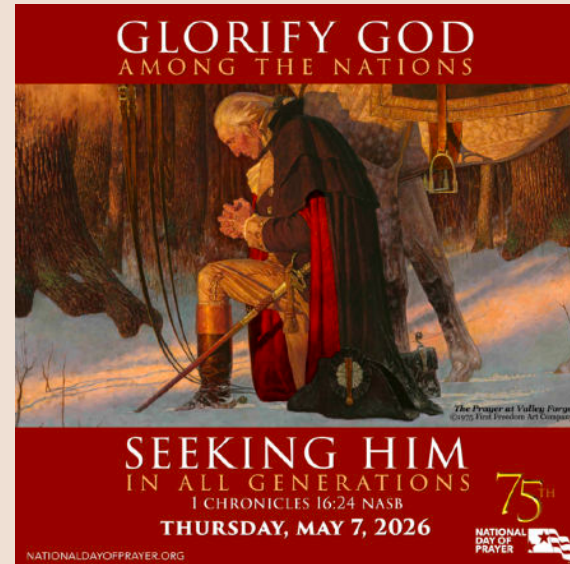
On May 7, 2026, we gather for the National Day of Prayer with the theme: "Glorify God Among the Nations, Seeking Him in All Generations." These words echo the prayer of King David in 1 Chronicles 16, a song of thanksgiving offered as the Ark of the Covenant was returned to Jerusalem—a powerful reminder of God's faithful presence among His people.

Though the Ark symbolized God's nearness, David's prayer reveals a deeper truth: God was never absent. Even in seasons of waiting, wandering, or loss, He remained attentive to every cry. In the same way, we are invited to seek Him—not only in moments of celebration, but in every generation, every circumstance, and every corner of our lives.

To glorify God among the nations is to make His name known—not just with our words, but with lives shaped by His love, mercy, and truth. It is a call to lift our eyes beyond ourselves and pray boldly for our communities, our country, and the world. It is also a call to pass down faith, ensuring that every generation knows the goodness and faithfulness of God.

This week as we join countless others in prayer, may our hearts be anchored in gratitude and expectation. God is near. He hears us. And as we seek Him together, He will move—bringing hope, unity, and renewal for His glory.

nationaldayofprayer.org



GATHER TIME: A Call to Pray Together

"Again, truly I tell you that if two of you on earth agree about anything they ask for, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven. For where two or three gather in My name, there am I with them." - Matthew 18:19-20

When we gather in the name of the Lord, He is with us, He hears us, and he answers. This May, we have a unique opportunity to practice intentional, unified prayer. Whether you are carrying personal burdens, wanting to celebrate God's goodness, or feeling called to intercede for our nation, there is a place for you.

We invite you to participate in two impactful gatherings:

Monthly Prayer & Praise Gathering Wednesday, May 6 @ 4pm in the courtyard Chapel

Come as you are as we worship God with our hearts and have focused individual and corporate prayer. We will take time to praise God for His active presence in our lives and lift up the specific needs of our church families, ministries, and local community.

Everyone is welcome, please come expectantly, believing that God truly changes things when we pray.

National Day of Prayer Gathering Thursday, May 7 @ 10am in the courtyard Chapel

Join millions of believers across the country for the annual National Day of Prayer. This year's national theme is "Glorify God Among the Nations - Seeking Him in All Generations" based on 1 Chronicles 16:24. We will spend an hour specifically interceding for our government leaders, military, educators, families, and the overall healing of our land. We will also pray for personal needs and for Victory Lutheran.

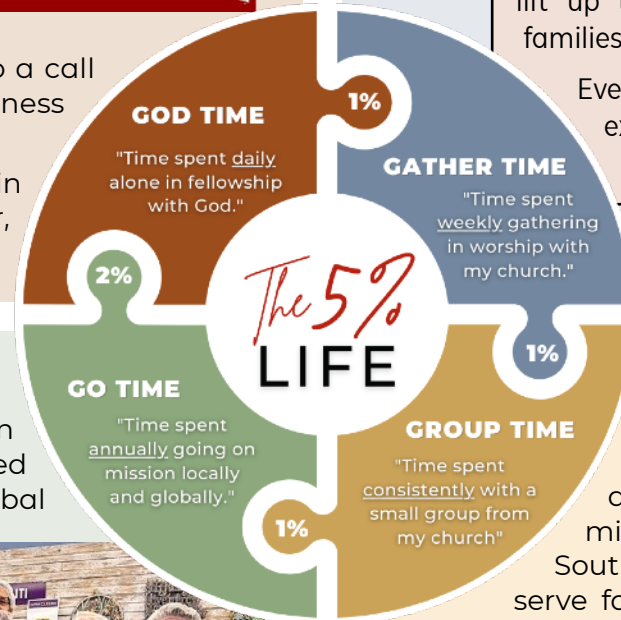


If you have a prayer request, contact Chaplain Dirk Duhlstine dduhlstine@victorylutheran.com or 480-660-5231

GO TIME: Staff Outing — Feed My Starving Children (FMSC)

For our staff outing on April 28th, we spent time serving at Feed My Starving Children in Tempe. This nonprofit organization is dedicated to providing nutritious, hand-packed meals to children in need around the world, relying on volunteers to help make a global impact. During our time there, we packed a total of 223 boxes—equivalent to 48,168 meals—helping bring hope and nourishment to communities facing food insecurity.

If you're interested in taking part in this mission outreach, you are invited to **SIGN UP** in the Welcome Center. **Victory Connections** invites you to join them on the **4th Wednesday of each month from 9:00-11:00am** at Feed My Starving Children. Bus transportation is provided, departing at 8:00am. Whether you prefer to stand and pack meals or sit and help label, there's a role for everyone to make a meaningful impact.



GROUP TIME: Serving Our Neighbors

At Victory Lutheran Church, we believe that loving our neighbors sometimes starts with something as simple—and sacred—as a bag of groceries. Our Food Pantry ministry, in partnership with Lutheran Social Services of the Southwest (LSS-SW), is one of the most tangible ways we get to serve families in our community who are facing food insecurity.

Open Monday and Wednesday mornings, 9:00-11:30am, the pantry provides not just physical nourishment, but dignity, welcome, and hope.

But the work is far from done—and there's a place for you in it. Whether you've got a strong back for lifting boxes, a heart for hospitality, or just a couple hours to spare, we would love to have you join the team. The pantry isn't just about food—it's about relationships, presence, and sharing the love of Christ in ways people can taste and see.



LET'S MAKE A JOYFUL NOISE!

Start collecting your change...

NOISY OFFERING MAY 30 & 31

MISSION/MINISTRY FOCUS:



Leaving for the season? Your unopened/non-perishable food and toiletry donations are welcome. Please drop them off in the brown bin near the front entry doors during office hours or during weekend worship.

Noisy Offering — May 30 & 31

A Noisy Offering is a fun and meaningful way to give—everyone is invited to bring loose change (coins that clink and clang!) and even dollar bills to support a good cause. Even the smallest gifts can add up to make a big difference. All proceeds to benefit the LSS-SW Food Pantry—so let's give generously and make some noise!